

Deleting, Moving And Copying





rm

We use the remove (rm) command to remove files from our machine.

For example, `rm app.js` would remove the app.js file.

Note: rm DELETES FILES, there is no undo or recycling bin to retrieve them from! They are gone!

A dark-themed terminal window icon with three colored dots (red, yellow, green) in the top left corner.

```
> rm <filename>
```





deleting folders

To delete empty folders, we need to use the `-d` option with `rm`. For example, `rm -d cats` would remove the `cats` directory (only if it's already empty)

To delete folders that are NOT empty, use the `-r` option. For example, `rm -r chickens` would delete the `chickens` directory whether it's empty or not.

You definitely want to be careful when deleting directories!

A dark-themed terminal window icon with three colored dots (red, yellow, green) in the top left corner.

```
> rm -r <foldername>
```





moving stuff

Use the move command (`mv`) to move files and directories from one location to another.

When we specify a file or files as the source and a directory as the destination, we are moving the files into the directory.

For example, `mv app.css styles/` will move the `app.css` file into the `styles` directory.

A dark blue terminal window with three colored window control buttons (red, yellow, green) in the top left corner. Inside the terminal, a light blue prompt character is followed by the command `mv <source> <destination>` in white text.

```
> mv <source> <destination>
```





moving stuff

Use the move command (`mv`) to move files and directories from one location to another.

When we specify a file or files as the source and a directory as the destination, we are moving the files into the directory.

For example, `mv app.css styles/` will move the `app.css` file into the `styles` directory.

A dark blue terminal window with three colored window control buttons (red, yellow, green) in the top left corner. A light blue prompt character is visible before the command.

```
> mv <source> <destination>
```





renaming

We can also use the move command to rename files and folders.

If we specify a single file as the source and a single file as the destination, it will rename the file. For example, to rename the chickens.txt file to roosters.txt, we could run `mv chickens.txt roosters.txt`

If we specify a single folder as the source and the destination doesn't yet exist, it will rename the folder. If the destination folder does exist, it will move our source folder into the destination.

A terminal window icon with three colored dots (red, yellow, green) in the top left corner.

```
> mv <current> <newname>
```





copying

We can use the copy command to create copies of files and folders.

To create a copy of sheep.txt called dolly.txt, we could run `cp sheep.txt dolly.txt`

To copy multiple files into another directory, use `cp file1 file2 directory`.

A dark blue terminal window with three colored window control buttons (red, yellow, green) in the top left corner.

```
> cp <source> <destination>
```

